BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 2007-184

GWENDOLYN HUBBARD 71 Summer Rim Circle Sacramento, CA 9582

OAH No. 2007020327

Registered Nurse License No. 490750

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on November 2,2007. It is so ORDERED October 2,2007.

La Francisca W Tate

FOR THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

1	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General		
2	Lead Supervising Deputy Attorney General GEOFFREY S. ALLEN, State Bar No. 193338 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5341		
3			
4			
5			
6			
7	Facsimile: (916) 327-8643 E-mail: Geoffrey.Allen@doj.ca.gov		
. 8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9	BEFORE THE		
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11			
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2007-184	
13	GWENDOLYN HUBBARD 71 Summer Rim Circle	OAH No. 2007020327	
14 15	Sacramento, CA 95823	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
16	Registered Nurse License No. 490750		
17	Respondent.		
18			
19	IT IS HEREBY STIPLIL ATED AND	AGREED by and between the newtice to the	
20	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
21	PARTIES		
22	1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H, R.N (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of		
23	the Board of Registered Nursing (Board). Complainant brought this action solely in her official		
24	capacity and is represented in this matter by Edmund G. Brown Jr., Attorney General of the State		
25	of California, by Geoffrey S. Allen, Deputy Attorney General.		
26	2. Respondent, Gwendolyn Hubbard (Respondent), is representing herself in		
27	this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise her right to be represented by counsel.		
28	///	·	
- 1			

3. On or about June 30, 1993, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse License No. 490750 (License) to Respondent. The License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2007-184 and will expire on December 31, 2008, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 2007-184 (Accusation) was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on January 17, 2007. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of the Accusation is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in the Accusation. Respondent has also carefully read, and fully understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in the Accusation.
- 9. Respondent agrees that her License is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

OTHER MATTERS

10. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 490750 issued to Respondent is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

Severability Clause. Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1. Obey All Laws. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this condition, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint forms and fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process.

Criminal Court Orders: If Respondent is under criminal court orders, including probation or parole, and the order is violated, this shall be deemed a violation of these probation conditions, and may result in the filing of an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation.

2. Comply with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall fully comply with the conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's

 compliance with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active, current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license shall be fully restored.

- 3. Report in Person. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives.
- 4. Residency, Practice, or Licensure Outside of State. Periods of residency or practice as a registered nurse outside of California shall not apply toward a reduction of this probation time period. Respondent's probation is tolled, if and when she resides outside of California. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15 days of any change of residency or practice outside the state, and within 30 days prior to re-establishing residency or returning to practice in this state.

Respondent shall provide a list of all states and territories where she has ever been licensed as a registered nurse, vocational nurse, or practical nurse. Respondent shall further provide information regarding the status of each license and any changes in such license status during the term of probation. Respondent shall inform the Board if she applies for or obtains a new nursing license during the term of probation.

5. Submit Written Reports. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the conditions of the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the Board or its representatives.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the nursing regulatory agency in every state and territory in which she has a registered nurse license.

///

6. Function as a Registered Nurse. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered nursing" may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or work in any non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice nursing for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation shall apply.

7. Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements. Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing or continuing any employment, paid or voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request of the Board.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to her employer and immediate supervisors prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

In addition to the above, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she obtains any nursing or other health care related employment. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she is terminated or separated, regardless of cause, from any nursing, or other health care related employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination or separation.

8. **Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing or continuing any employment as a registered nurse, or education and training that includes patient care.

Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse in good standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative methods of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician) are approved.

Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Maximum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is present in the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.
- (b) Moderate The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in the patient care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.
- (c) Minimum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has person-to-person communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.
- (d) Home Health Care If Respondent is approved to work in the home health care setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-to-person communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent shall maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, on-site visits to patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.
- 9. **Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency, a traveling nurse, or for an in-house nursing pool.

Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse unless the registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been

3

8

15

20

25

27

28

26

approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation where home visits are required.

Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before working in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses and/or unlicensed assistive personnel.

Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the Board may request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours of work.

10. Complete a Nursing Course(s). Respondent, at her own expense, shall enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later than six months prior to the end of her probationary term.

Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the course(s). Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of completion for the above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to Respondent after photocopying them for its records.

11. Cost Recovery. Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of \$2,179.50. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the probation term.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in

order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation will apply.

12. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates the conditions of her probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation) of Respondent's License.

If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has been filed against Respondent's License or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's License, the probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

13. License Surrender. During Respondent's term of probation, if she ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of probation, Respondent may surrender her License to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered License and wall certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

Surrender of Respondent's License shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's License history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

- (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other than a mental or physical illness; or
 - (2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness.
- 14. Physical Examination. Within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent, at her expense, shall have a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, who is approved by the Board before the assessment is performed, submit an assessment of the Respondent's physical condition and capability to perform the duties of a

registered nurse. Such an assessment shall be submitted in a format acceptable to the Board. If medically determined, a recommended treatment program will be instituted and followed by the Respondent with the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant providing written reports to the Board on forms provided by the Board.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required until the Board has notified Respondent that a medical determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant, documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided. Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

Dependence. Respondent, at her expense, shall successfully complete during the probationary period or shall have successfully completed prior to commencement of probation a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program of at least six months duration. As required, reports shall be submitted by the program on forms provided by the Board. If Respondent has not completed a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program prior to commencement of probation, Respondent, within 45 days from the effective date of the decision, shall be enrolled in a program. If a program is not successfully completed within the first nine months of probation,

the Board shall consider Respondent in violation of probation.

Based on Board recommendation, each week Respondent shall be required to attend at least one, but no more than five 12-step recovery meetings or equivalent (e.g., Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.) and a nurse support group as approved and directed by the Board. If a nurse support group is not available, an additional 12-step meeting or equivalent shall be added. Respondent shall submit dated and signed documentation confirming such attendance to the Board during the entire period of probation. Respondent shall continue with the recovery plan recommended by the treatment/rehabilitation program or a licensed mental health examiner and/or other ongoing recovery groups.

Abstain from Use of Psychotropic (Mood-Altering) Drugs. Respondent shall completely abstain from the possession, injection or consumption by any route of all controlled substances and all psychotropic (mood altering) drugs, including alcohol, except when the same are ordered by a health care professional legally authorized to do so as part of documented medical treatment. Respondent shall have sent to the Board, in writing and within fourteen (14) days, by the prescribing health professional, a report identifying the medication, dosage, the date the medication was prescribed, the Respondent's prognosis, the date the medication will no longer be required, and the effect on the recovery plan, if appropriate.

Respondent shall identify for the Board a single physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant who shall be aware of Respondent's history of substance abuse and will coordinate and monitor any prescriptions for Respondent for dangerous drugs, controlled substances or mood-altering drugs. The coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant shall report to the Board on a quarterly basis Respondent's compliance with this condition. If any substances considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a program for the time limited use of any such substances.

The Board may require the single coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant to be a specialist in addictive medicine, or to consult with a specialist in addictive medicine.

-//

participate in a random, biological fluid testing or a drug screening program which the Board approves. The length of time and frequency will be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent is responsible for keeping the Board informed of Respondent's current telephone number at all times. Respondent shall also ensure that messages may be left at the telephone number when she is not available and ensure that reports are submitted directly by the testing agency to the Board, as directed. Any confirmed positive finding shall be reported immediately to the Board by the program and Respondent shall be considered in violation of probation.

In addition, Respondent, at any time during the period of probation, shall fully cooperate with the Board or any of its representatives, and shall, when requested, submit to such tests and samples as the Board or its representatives may require for the detection of alcohol, narcotics, hypnotics, dangerous drugs, or other controlled substances.

If Respondent has a positive drug screen for any substance not legally authorized and not reported to the coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, and the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to participate in a random, biological fluid testing or drug screening program within the specified time frame, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. After taking into account documented evidence of mitigation, if the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

18. Mental Health Examination. Respondent shall, within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, have a mental health examination including psychological testing as appropriate to determine her capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. The examination will be performed by a psychiatrist, psychologist or other licensed mental health

practitioner approved by the Board. The examining mental health practitioner will submit a written report of that assessment and recommendations to the Board. All costs are the responsibility of Respondent. Recommendations for treatment, therapy or counseling made as a result of the mental health examination will be instituted and followed by Respondent.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed mental health care practitioner making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and may not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required, until the Board has notified Respondent that a mental health determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant, documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided. Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

19. Therapy or Counseling Program. Respondent, at her expense, shall participate in an on-going counseling program until such time as the Board releases her from this requirement and only upon the recommendation of the counselor. Written progress reports from the counselor will be required at various intervals.

25 | ///

26 | ///

27 | ///

28 | ///

1	<u>ACCEPTANCE</u>		
2	I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the		
3	stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License. I enter into this		
4	Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree		
5	to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board.		
6	DATED: 8-8-07		
7			
. 8	GyENDOLYN HUBBARD		
9	Respondent		
10	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>		
11	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully		
12	submitted for consideration by the Board.		
13	DATED: 8 9 07		
14	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California		
15 16	NA		
17	GEOFFREY S. ALLEN Deputy Attorney General		
18	Attorneys for Complainant		
19			
20	DOJ Matter ID: SA2006101662 10359946.wpd		
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			

Exhibit A
Accusation No. 2007-184

	[
1	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California GEOFFREY S. ALLEN, State Bar No. 193338		
2			
3	Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice		
4	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255		
5	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5341		
6	Facsimile: (916) 327-8643	ωΣ.	
7	Attorneys for Complainant	*.	
8	BEFORE THE		
9	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2007-184	
12	GWENDOLYN HUBBARD 4561 El Cerrito Way	ACCUSATION	
13	Sacramento, California 95820	ACCUSATION	
14	Registered Nurse License No. 490750		
15	Respondent.		
16			
17	Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H., R.N. ("Complainant") alleges:		
18	PARTIE	<u> 28</u>	
19	1. Complainant brings this Accu	sation solely in her official capacity as the	
20	Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board"), Department of Consumer		
21	Affairs.		
22	License History		
23	2. On or about June 30, 1993, the Board issued Registered Nurse License		
24	Number 490750 ("license") to GWENDOLYN HUBBARD ("Respondent"). The license will		
25	expire on December 31, 2008, unless renewed.		
26	STATUTORY PROVISIONS		
27	3. Section 2750 of the Business a	nd Professions Code ("Code") provides, in	
28	pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a		

1	plea of nolo contendere of violating Penal Code section 242 (Battery) and Vehicle Code section		
2	14601.1, subdivision (a) (Drive a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License), both misdemeanors.		
3	Such crimes are substantially related to the functions, duties, and qualifications of a registered		
4	nurse.		
5	<u>PRAYER</u>		
6	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein		
7	alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:		
8	1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 490750 issued		
9	to GWENDOLYN HUBBARD;		
10	2. Ordering GWENDOLYN HUBBARD to pay the Board the reasonable		
11	costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case pursuant to Code section 125.3; and,		
12	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.		
13			
14	DATED: 12/19/06		
15			
16	Retu Sant.		
17	RUTH ANN TERRY, M.P.H., R.N. Executive Officer		
18	Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs		
19	State of California Complainant		
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27	\$A2006101662		

10268866.wpd

28